| ZONING RECLASSIFICATION AP | PLICATION | Case No. 121 Date Filed 7/1/06 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Harford County Board of Appeals | SEP - 8 2 06 | Hearing Date |
| Bel Air, Maryland 21014 | COUNCIL | Receipt |

Note

- 1. It is required that the applicant have a pre-filing conference with the Department of Planning and Zoning to determine the necessary additional information that will be required.
- 2. The burden of proof in any rezoning case shall be upon the Petitioner.
- 3. Any application in a zoning case and any amendment thereto shall contain specific allegations setting forth the basis for granting of the request.
- 4. Petition must contain names and addresses of all persons having legal or equitable interest in the property, including shareholders owning more than five percent (5%) of the stock in a corporation having any interest in the property, except those corporations listed and traded on a recognized stock exchange.
- 5. Application will be reviewed for completeness within ten (10) working days of submittal. Applicant will be notified by mail of completeness of application.

Petitioner

| Name 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC | Phone Number <u>Call</u> | Attorney | |
|---|--|-------------|----------|
| Address P. O. box 230, Jarrettsville, MD 21084-023 | 0 | | |
| Street Number Street | | State | Zip Code |
| Property Owner Same as above. | Phone Number | | |
| Address | | | |
| Street Number Street | | State | Zip Code |
| Contract Purchaser N/A | Phone Number | | |
| Address | | | |
| Street Number Street | | State | Zip Code |
| Attorney/Representative Robert S. Lynch, Esquire | Phone Number (41) | 0) 879-2222 | |
| Address Stark and Keenan, P.A., 30 Office Street, F | Bel Air. Maryland | 21.01/ | |
| Street Number Street | The second secon | State | Zip Code |

Land Description

| Address and Location of Property (with nearest intersecting road) 2001 Conowingo Road, Bel Air, MD 21014; Southwest of Hickory Elementary School. Property is located between U.S. Bus. Route 1 (Conowingo Road) and U.S. Route 1 (Bel Air Bypass). |
|---|
| Subdivision N/A Lot Number N/A Acreage/Lot Size 16.901 ac. Election District 3rd |
| Existing Zoning GI Proposed Zoning CI Acreage to be Rezoned 16.901 acres |
| Tax Map No. 41 Grid No. 1B Parcel 8 Deed Reference 3345/103 Industrial/Employmen |
| Critical Area Designation N/A Land Use Plan Designation Land Use Plan |
| Present Use and ALL improvements: Building. |
| Proposed Use (If for subdivision development, proposed number of lots, type of dwellings, and type of development. Example: Conventional, Conventional with Open Space, Planned Residential Development) Commercial. |
| Is the property designated a historic site, or does the property contain any designated or registered historic structures? NoIf yes, describe: |
| Estimated Time Requested to Present Case: 2 hours. |

Required Information To Be Attached

(Submit three (3) copies of each):

- (a) The names and addresses of all persons, organizations, corporations, or groups owning land, any part of which lies within five hundred (500) feet of the property proposed to be reclassified as shown on the current assessment records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation.
 - (b) A statement of the grounds for the application including:
 - (1) A statement as to whether there is an allegation of mistake as to the existing zoning, and if so, the nature of the mistake and facts relied upon to support this allegation.
 - (2) A statement as to whether there is an

allegation of substantial change in the character of the neighborhood, and if so, a precise description of such alleged substantial change.

- (c) A statement as to whether, in the applicant's opinion, the proposed classification is in conformance with the Master Plan and the reasons for the opinion.
- (d) A Concept Plan shall be submitted by the applicant at the time the application is filed. The Concept Plan shall illustrate the following:
 - (1) Location of site.
 - (2) Proposed nature and distribution of land uses, not including engineering drawings.
 - (3) Neighborhood (as defined by the Applicant).

2001 CONOWINGO ROAD, LLC

Harford County Board of Appeals Piecemeal Rezoning Application

Definition of Neighborhood

The neighborhood is defined as an approximate one (1) mile radius from the subject property.

Master Plan Conformance

The subject property is currently designated as Industrial/Employment in the Harford County Land Use Plan. The proposed rezoning of the property to a CI zoning classification is consistent with the plan for the area. Industrial/Employment Land Use designation is defined as, "areas of concentrated manufacturing, distribution, technical, research, office and other activities generally located along major transportation corridors." The subject property is bounded on the west by U.S. Route 1, to the north by Maryland Route 543 and to the east by the Bel Air Bypass. These roads are considered major arterial highways due to their level of service. This rezoning request is consistent with the policies outlined within the transportation element of the Land Use Plan due to its proximity of these highways. The rezoning of this property to a CI classification will provide economic development opportunities that are more suitable for the surrounding land uses in this part of the Greater Bel Air/Hickory Community. Retail service uses are already in close proximity to the subject site. The subject property is located within the Development Envelope and is consistent with the policies in the Master Water and Sewer Plan and public utilities are available.

Change in Character of Neighborhood and Mistake

Since the time of the last Comprehensive Rezoning, there have been numerous changes in the character of the neighborhood. There has been new construction of retail service uses in the neighborhood as a result of the construction and realignment of U.S. Route 1. In addition, the County has constructed a large recreational complex in the neighborhood which has been a source of much traffic generation. A new car dealership has been constructed on what was once known as the Church of the Nazarene property. With the reorientation of the highways, the subject property becomes much more feasible for retail service uses as opposed to Industrial/Employment. There has not been any development of Industrial/Employment in the general neighborhood as the majority of the land uses are now service uses and are highway oriented. The Master Plan designates this property as

Industrial/Employment area. The current zoning, GI (General Industrial) was retained during the last 1997 Comprehensive Rezoning review. At that time, it was projected that this area north of Bel Air and part of the Hickory community would develop as an industrial or employment center. GI or General Industrial is not appropriate for this part of the County. The General Industrial zoning is defined pursuant to Section 267-40A(iii) as, "this district is intended for Industrial uses of a larger scale or a more intensive processing with large areas of unenclosed storage, which may generate substantially more impact on surrounding properties. Retail sales are not permitted except as accessory to a manufacturing operation where the product is produced on a site or as otherwise permitted." A review of the uses allowed in a GI district, including sewage pumping stations, sanitary land fills, warehousing, wholesaleing processing, rubble land fills, mineral extracting and processing. These uses would not be consistent with the neighborhood of Hickory, nor would they be compatible with the numerous institutional uses in the neighborhood, including the Hickory Elementary School, the Tucker Baseball Fields, and St. Ignatius Church. The premise, back in 1997, that this portion of the County would be ideal for a General Industrial use has not born out to fruition. Assumptions in 1997 were incorrect, the land use patterns and development that has occurred would not be compatible with an Industrial/Employment use of the property. On that basis alone, the property should be rezoned to a CI designation which allows a wider range of commercial uses and a less intense industrial use.

- (4) All surrounding zoning.
- (5) Proposed public or private capital improvements.
- (e) Previous individual rezonings and recommendation since the effective date of the Comprehensive Rezoning, within the neighborhood of the petitioned area, their case numbers, dates, and decisions.
- (f) Environmental features map indicating woods, fields, streams, floodplains, non-tidal wetlands, etc.
- (g) Property deed and a boundary survey prepared and sealed by a registered surveyor, including dimension of area requested to be rezoned if only a portion of the property.
- (h) Private restrictions or covenants, if any, applicable to subject parcel.
- (i) Any agreements with individuals or associations in the neighborhood related to the proposed zoning shall be submitted.
- (j) Availability of public water and sewer.

Additional Information as Required by the Department of Planning and Zoning

- (a) Existing and proposed libraries, parks, schools, fire and police departments.
- (b) Demonstration of compatibility of the proposed use with existing and proposed development for the area.
- (c) Traffic impact study.
- (d) Economic and Environmental impact studies.
- (e) Estimated population for existing and proposed petitioned area and neighborhood, as defined.

ELECTION DISTRICT 03 LOCATION 2001 Conowingo Road, Bel Air 21 014

Appealed because a rezoning pursuant to Section 267-12A of the Harford County Code

to rezone 16.901 acres from a GI District to CI District requires approval by the

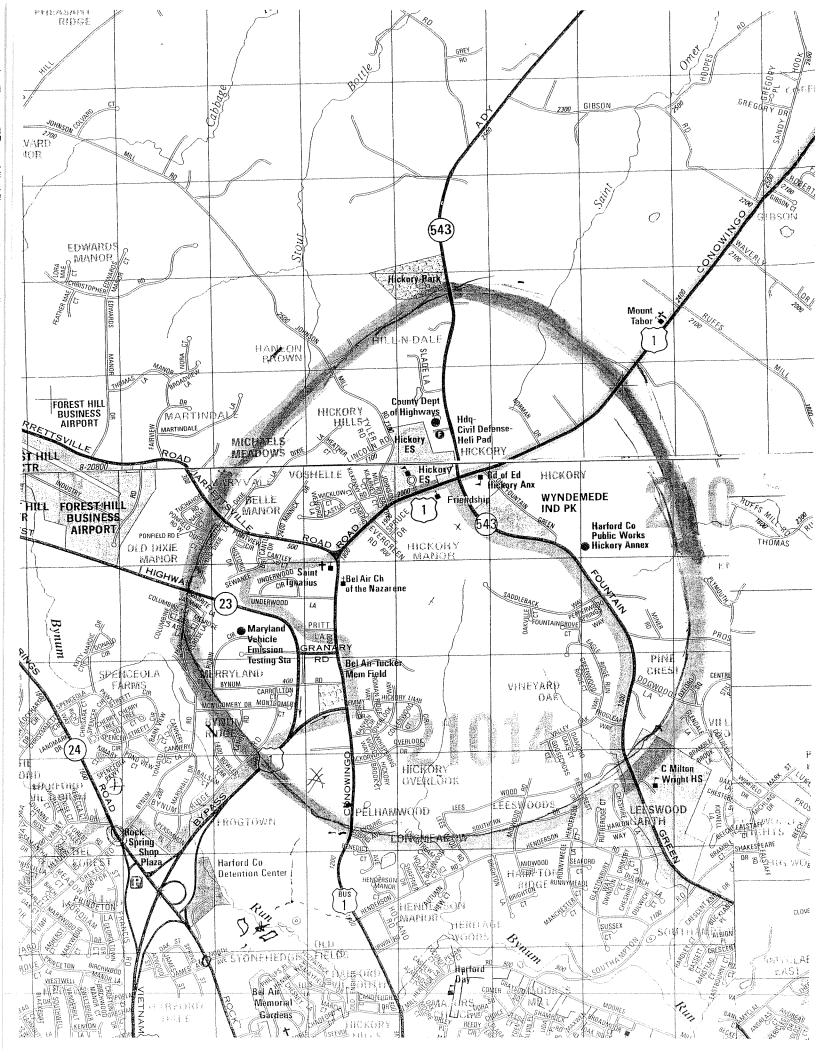
BY 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC, PO Box 230, Jarrettsville 21084

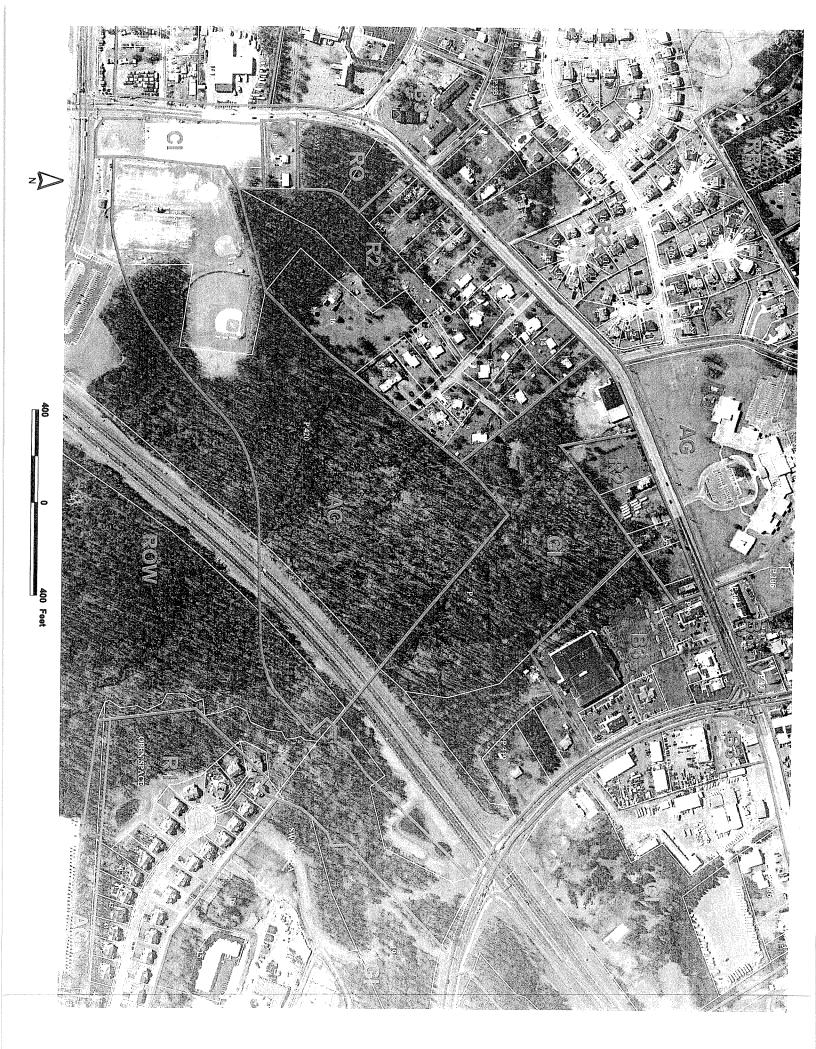
- (f) Soils analysis.
- (g) Aerial photograph.

CASE 121 MAP 41 TYPE Rezoning

| to the best of my/our knowledge, informa | ation, and being | ef. | |
|--|------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Signature of Applicant/Owner | Date | Witness) | <u>Date</u> |
| Signature of Contract Purchaser/Owner | Date | Witness | Date |
| JAM JA | 2 | Elizabeth & Thompson | Date |
| Signature of Attorney/Representative | Date | Witness) | Date |

Board.





DAVID R. CRAIG HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE





C. PETE GUTWALD DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING

AUG 1 3 2007

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Planning and Zoning

August 10, 2007

ADDENDUM TO STAFF REPORT

BOARD OF APPEALS CASE NO. 121

APPLICANT/OWNER:

2001 Conowingo Road, LLC

P.O. Box 230, Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084

REPRESENTATIVE:

Robert S. Lynch, Esquire

Stark and Keenan, P.A.

30 Office Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

LOCATION:

2001 Conowingo Road

Tax Map: 41 / Grid: 1B / Parcel: 8

Election District: Three (3)

ACREAGE:

16.901 acres

ACREAGE TO BE REZONED:

16.901 acres

EXISTING ZONING:

GI/General Industrial District

PROPOSED ZONING:

CI/Commercial Industrial

NEIGHBORHOOD

The Department has reviewed the revised neighborhood submitted by the Applicant (Attachment 1). The revised neighborhood defined by the Applicant is an appropriate description and generally conforms to the neighborhood defined by the Department.

SITE PLAN

The Department has reviewed the revised site plan submitted by the Applicant (Attachment 2). The Applicant's revised site plan continues to propose a retail pad site, a home improvement

Preserving Harford's past; promoting Harford's future -

MY DIRECT PHONE NUMBER IS (410) 638-3103

ADDENDUM TO STAFF REPORT Board of Appeals Case Number 121 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC Page 2 of 2

center, and associated parking and stormwater management within the non-tidal wetlands and associated 75-foot Natural Resource District (NRD) buffer. Development is not permitted within the non-tidal wetlands or 75-foot NRD buffer.

The Applicant's revised site plan may constitute an Integrated Community Shopping Center (ICSC). An ICSC is not permitted in the CI/Commercial Industrial District. Furthermore, the Applicant's revised site plan shows a "Proposed Sit Down Restaurant" on an adjacent parcel that is zoned R2/Urban Residential District. This adjacent parcel is not included in this rezoning request or the Applicant's accompanying requests.

CONCLUSION

The Department has reviewed the Applicant's revised neighborhood and revised site plan. The Department's position as detailed in the original Staff Report remains unchanged. The Department of Planning and Zoning recommends that the request to rezone the subject property from GI/General Industrial District to CI/Commercial Industrial District be denied.

Shane Grimm, AICP

Chief, Site Plans & Permits Review

SPG/ASM/jf

Anthony S. McClune, AICP

Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning

DAVID R. CRAIG HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE





C. PETE GUTWALD DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING

JUN 1 3 2007

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Department of Planning and Zoning

June 8, 2007

STAFF REPORT

BOARD OF APPEALS CASE NO. 121

APPLICANT/OWNER:

2001 Conowingo Road, LLC

P.O. Box 230, Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084

REPRESENTATIVE:

Robert S. Lynch, Esquire

Stark and Keenan, P.A.

30 Office Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

LOCATION:

2001 Conowingo Road

Tax Map: 41 / Grid: 1B / Parcel: 8

Election District: Three (3)

ACREAGE:

16.901 acres

ACREAGE TO BE REZONED:

16.901 acres

EXISTING ZONING:

GI/General Industrial District

PROPOSED ZONING:

CI/Commercial Industrial

DATE FILED:

September 1, 2006

HEARING DATE:

June 20, 2007

APPLICANT'S REQUEST and JUSTIFICATION:

Request:

The Applicant is requesting to rezone 16.901 acres from GI/General Industrial District to CI/Commercial Industrial District.

— Preserving Harford's past; promoting Harford's future —

MY DIRECT PHONE NUMBER IS (410) 638-3103

STAFF REPORT Board of Appeals Case Number 121 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC Page 2 of 7

Justification:

See ATTACHMENT 1.

LAND USE AND ZONING ANALYSIS:

Location and Description of Neighborhood:

The Applicant's property is located north of Bel Air in the community of Hickory. The parcel is situated between Business Route 1 and the Hickory Bypass, west of MD Route 543. A location map and a copy of the Applicants' site plan are enclosed with the report (Attachments 2 and 3A & B).

The Department defines the neighborhood as all those properties east of Water Tower Way, between Business Route 1 and the Hickory Bypass; including those properties on the north side of Business Route 1. The northern limit of the neighborhood is the intersection of Business Route 1 and the Hickory Bypass. The neighborhood also extends approximately 2,000+/- feet south along MD Route 543 and includes all those properties on the east and west side of MD Route 543. Enclosed is a copy of a map showing the above referenced neighborhood (Attachment 4).

Land Use – Master Plan:

The subject property is located on the southeast side of Conowingo Road (Business Route 1) west of the MD Route 543 intersection. The area contains a mix of Land Use designations including Medium and High Intensities and Industrial/Employment. The Natural Features Map reflects stream systems. The subject property is designated as Industrial Employment which is defined by the 2004 Master Plan as:

Industrial Employment – Areas of concentrated manufacturing, distribution, technical, research, office, and other activities generally located along major transportation corridors.

Enclosed with the report are copies of the 2004 Land Use Map and the Natural Features Map (Attachments 5 and 6).

Land Use – Existing:

The existing land uses generally conform to the intent of the Master Plan. The area contains single-family residential, commercial, industrial and institutional uses. Some of the commercial uses in the area include a car wash, farm equipment sales, gas stations/convenience stores, restaurants, carry-out food establishments, mini-warehousing, and banks. Industrial uses in the area such as warehousing, manufacturing, and processing are associated with the Wyndemede

STAFF REPORT Board of Appeals Case Number 121 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC Page 3 of 7

Corporate Center. The Hickory Elementary School and St. Ignatius Church represent some of the institutional uses in the area.

The environmental features map and site plan do not accurately reflect the streams that traverse the subject property. Additionally, the Harford County Soil Survey Map indicates that the subject property is underlain with Watchung (WaB) soils. Watchung soils are a hydric soil group which may indicate the presence of non-tidal wetlands. The Applicant recently applied for and was granted a Forest Harvest Permit for the subject property. The Department requested that the Applicant perform a non-tidal wetland delineation prior to approval of the permit. The non-tidal wetland delineation dated May 25, 2007 shows extensive areas of wetlands on the subject property that extend on to adjacent parcels (Attachment 7). The Department field verified the location of the streams and non-tidal wetlands. There is an additional stream shown on the delineation and the other streams extend further than what is shown on the Applicant's environmental features plan.

The topography within the area ranges from level to rolling. The subject property is densely wooded except for an area around the existing building located along Business Route 1. Enclosed with the report are a copy of the topography map and the aerial photograph (Attachments 8 and 9)

The subject property is irregularly shaped and is approximately 16.901 acres in size. It is bordered to the south side by the Hickory Bypass. The Hickory Manor residential subdivision borders the subject property to the southwest. The Hickory Village Shopping Center borders the subject property to the northeast. There are three parcels that border the subject property to the north. All three parcels are improved with single-family dwellings. One of the parcels is also used for school bus storage. The Castle Blaney residential subdivision and Hickory Elementary School are located across Conowingo Road from the subject property. Enclosed with the report are photographs of the area (Attachment 10).

The subject property has frontage along Business Route 1 and is currently improved with a block building. Permit records indicate that the block building was previously used by a trucking company and by a fabrication operation. Although the property has frontage on the Hickory Bypass, the State Highway Administration (SHA) has designated this section of roadway as "denied access".

Zoning and Zoning History:

Zoning:

The zoning classifications in the area are generally consistent with the 2004 Master Plan as well as the existing land uses. Residential zoning includes R2 and R3/Urban Residential Districts and RO/Residential Office. Commercial zoning includes B3/General Business. Industrial zoning includes CI/Commercial Industrial District and GI/General Industrial District. There are also parcels that are zoned AG/Agricultural within the neighborhood defined by the Department of

STAFF REPORT Board of Appeals Case Number 121 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC Page 4 of 7

Planning and Zoning. The subject property is zoned GI/General Industrial District as shown on the enclosed copy of the Zoning Map (Attachment 11).

Zoning History:

- 1957 Comprehensive Zoning Review: In 1957 the subject property was zoned AG/Agricultural District. In 1974, the owner of the subject property filed a piecemeal rezoning request (Case Z-53) to rezone the property from AG/Agricultural District to M1/Light Industrial District. The request was granted and the subject property was rezoned to M1/Light Industrial District (Attachment 12).
- 1982 Comprehensive Zoning Review: During the 1982 Comprehensive Zoning Review the Applicant's property was zoned GI/General Industrial District (Attachment 13).
- 1989 Comprehensive Zoning Review: In 1989 the Applicant's property remained GI/General Industrial District (Attachment 14).
- 1997 Comprehensive Zoning Review: There was no request to change the zoning on the subject property in 1997 and the zoning remained GI/General Industrial District (Attachment 15).
- 2005 Comprehensive Zoning Review: The Applicant requested that the property be rezoned to CI/Commercial Industrial during the 2005 review. The County Council voted to change the property to CI. However, the County Executive vetoed the Legislation and the County Council did not override the veto. Therefore, the zoning assigned to the property in 1997 remains in effect. Attached is a copy of the 2005 zoning log (Attachment 16).

BASIS FOR INDIVIDUAL REZONING REQUEST:

Under Maryland case law, the burden of proof lies with the Applicant to provide information that there has been a substantial change in the overall character of the neighborhood or that the County made a mistake during the last comprehensive zoning review process. It should be noted that the Courts have stated that any argument for change cannot be based on existing changes that were anticipated during the last comprehensive review.

Substantial Change Argument:

The Applicant argues that the subject property can no longer be used for intensive industrial uses generally associated with the GI/General Industrial District. The Applicant states that, "Since the time of the last Comprehensive Rezoning, there have been numerous changes in the character of the neighborhood. There has been new construction of retail service uses in the neighborhood as a result of the construction and realignment of US Route 1. In addition, the County has constructed a large recreational complex in the neighborhood which has been a source of much traffic generation. A new car dealership has been constructed on what was once known as the Church of the Nazarene Property. With the reorientation of the highways, the subject property

STAFF REPORT
Board of Appeals Case Number 121
2001 Conowingo Road, LLC
Page 5 of 7

becomes much more feasible for retail service uses as opposed to Industrial/Employment. There has not been any development of Industrial/Employment in the general neighborhood as the majority of the land uses are now service uses and are highway oriented."

The Department finds that there has not been a substantial change in the neighborhood. The BMW dealership was developed on property zoned CI/Commercial Industrial. Motor vehicle sales are permitted as a matter of right in the CI/Commercial Industrial District. Tucker Field is a County Parks and Recreation facility which is located on a parcel that is zoned AG/Agricultural. Parks and recreation uses are permitted as a matter of right in all zoning districts. The development of the Hickory Village Shopping Center with retail and service uses was also developed in accordance with the existing B3/General Business zoning.

The Applicant's argument that the increase in traffic generation has caused a substantial change in the neighborhood is unfounded. The neighborhood as defined by the Department is located entirely within the Development Envelope where more intensive uses are permitted and encouraged. The increase in traffic is an anticipated result of the development of uses in the area that are consistent with the Land Use Plan and existing zoning. Additionally, the Applicant argues that the subject property is more feasible for retail uses due to the reorientation of the highways. While the construction of the Hickory Bypass has helped to relieve congestion within the village of Hickory, the State Highway Administration (SHA) has designated the Bypass as a "denied access" highway. Therefore, the reorientation of the highways has not had the effect of making the subject property more feasible or accessible for retail uses.

As stated above, the development which has occurred in the area is consistent with the existing zoning and Land Use Plan. Therefore, the Department finds that there has not been a substantial change in the neighborhood.

Mistake:

The Applicant states that, "The Master Plan designates this property as a Industrial/Employment The current zoning, GI (General Industrial) was retained during the last 1997 Comprehensive Rezoning review. At that time, it was projected that this area north of Bel Air and part of the Hickory community would develop as an industrial or employment center. GI or General Industrial is not appropriate for this part of the County. The General Industrial zoning is defined pursuant to Section 267-40A(iii) as, "this district is intended for Industrial uses of a larger scale or more intensive processing with large areas of unenclosed storage, which may generate substantially more impact on surrounding properties. Retail sales are not permitted except as accessory to a manufacturing operation where the product is produced on a site or as otherwise permitted." A review of the uses allowed in a GI district, including sewage pumping stations, sanitary land fills, warehousing, wholesaling processing, rubble land fills, mineral These uses would not be consistent with the neighborhood of extracting and processing. Hickory, nor would they be compatible with the numerous institutional uses in the neighborhood, including the Hickory Elementary School, the Tucker Baseball Fields, and St. Ignatius Church. The premise, back in 1997, that this portion of the County would be ideal for a General Industrial STAFF REPORT Board of Appeals Case Number 121 2001 Conowingo Road, LLC Page 6 of 7

use has not born out to fruition. Assumptions in 1997 were incorrect, the land use patterns and development that has occurred would not be compatible with an Industrial/Employment use of the property. On that basis alone, the property should be rezoned to a CI designation which allows a wider range of commercial uses and a less intensive industrial use."

The subject property is designated as Industrial/Employment. The Wyndemede Corporate Center and is located just south of the subject property and is zoned GI/General Industrial. The development of this industrial park is consistent with the Land Use Plan and GI/General Industrial district.

This rezoning request accompanies four other rezoning requests (Case No. 122, 123, 163 and 164) for adjacent parcels. The Applicant's site plan includes all five parcels and appears to show an Integrated Community Shopping Center (ICSC). As stated above, the subject property is encumbered by streams and non-tidal wetlands. The Applicant's site plan proposes retail pad sites, a home improvement center, and associated parking and stormwater management within the non-tidal wetlands and 75-foot Natural Resource District (NRD) buffer. Development is not permitted within the non-tidal wetlands or 75-foot NRD buffer.

Furthermore, an ICSC is not permitted in the CI/Commercial Industrial District. Therefore, the Department disagrees with the Applicants' justification that the County made a mistake during the 1997 Comprehensive Rezoning review by allowing the subject property to retain its GI/General Industrial zoning.

ANALYSIS OF INDIVIDUAL ZONING REQUEST:

Conformance with the Master Plan and Land Use Element Plan:

The proposed rezoning is in conformance with the intent of the 2004 Master Plan. The Land Use Plan shows the area designated as Industrial/Employment.

Impact on the neighborhood:

The requested rezoning would not adversely impact the neighborhood.

COMMENTS FROM ADVISORY GROUPS:

History Preservation Commission:

This property is not in a historic district and there are no historic sites on the property.

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Planning Advisory Board:

The Planning Advisory Board (PAB) reviewed the request at their meeting on May 9, 2007. The PAB voted 3-0 to recommend that the requested change in zoning be denied (Attachment 17).

RECOMMENDATION and or SUGGESTED CONDITIONS:

The Department of Planning and Zoning recommends that the request to rezone the subject property from GI/General Industrial District to CI/Commercial Industrial District be denied.

Shane Grimm, AICP

Chief, Site Plans & Permits Review

Anthony S. McClune, AICP

Deputy Director, Planning and Zoning

SPG/ASM/jf